

A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF MUSCIDAE FROM
PUERTO RICO.

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The description presented below is given at this time to provide a name for a hitherto undescribed muscid fly that may prove to be of some economic importance. It belongs to a group in which the third wing vein is setulose at the base, but unlike most such species, it has the fourth vein straight on its apical section, nearly all others having it distinctly curved forward. In addition to this departure from the normal, it also has no hairs on either the pteropleura or on the prosternum, while of less importance is the lack of hairs on the center of the propleura and on the hypopleura. The narrow lower squama places it in the subfamily Phaoniinae, and as an accessory character one may cite the two pairs of upper recurved fronto-orbital bristles. The peculiar arista, which is long-haired on the basal half and bare on the apical half, is very similar to that of *Pygophora* Schiner, no species of which occurs in the New World, and though the almost equally wide frons in both sexes might be accepted also as indication of some relationship, the bristling of the orbits is quite different. The bristling of the mid and hind tibiae is very similar to that of such genera as *Mydaea*, *Limnophora*, and typical *Helina*; the lack of the pre-alar bristle might be accepted as indicative of some connection with *Spilogona*, though normally the mesonotum has but three instead of four dark vittae.

I conclude that the species has no already described close relatives and judging from a critical examination of all its characters, it is a rather isolated form.

The generic and specific names used hereunder are those applied to the insect by the late Dr. J. M. Aldrich, and though he did not write a description, the name was entered in the Catalogue of Types in the U. S. National Museum, so that the present course was considered proper.

Subfamily PHAONINAE.

SCENETES, n. gen.

Generic characters: Head in profile almost twice as high as its greatest length, distinctly narrower at vibrissae than at antennal bases, genae about as high as width of third antennal segment and twice as high as width of parafacials at middle; facial ridges rather closely short setulose to a little above middle of third antennal segment, the latter from six to eight times as long as the second antennal segment; arista plumose on basal half or more, bare apically, eyes almost bare, frons in both sexes about one-fifth of the head-width at vertex, widened to anterior margin; orbits narrow, each with four to six incurved anterior

and two recurved posterior bristles; cruciate inter-frontal bristles lacking; ocellar and inner vertical bristles long; outer vertical bristles undeveloped. Thorax with prosternum, center of propleura, pteropleura, and hypopleura bare. Lower squama much larger than upper, narrowly rounded at apex. Fourth wing vein not curved forward at apex, first frequently with a few setulae above apically, third setulose above and below from base to about midway to the inner cross-vein. Hind tibia calcar lacking.

Scenetes cardini, n. sp.

Male and female: Black, slightly shining, with quite dense gray dust especially on head; thoracic dorsum with four black vittae, the abdomen with a dark central line and a pair of large subtriangular black spots on each tergite, these marks varying in form and intensity according to the angle from which the insect is viewed. Antennae black, basal two segments and sometimes the base of third below brownish yellow; palpi brownish yellow. Legs black, extreme apices of femora testaceous yellow. Wings grayish hyaline, squamae white. Halteres yellow.

Frons longer than wide, at middle fully twice as wide as long. Vibrissae very strong.

Mesonotum with 2 + 3 dorsocentral bristles, the prescutellar acrostichal setulae quadriseriate to almost the suture; presutural area with 2 bristles; prealar bristle undeveloped, both intra-alars present; sternopleural bristles 1 + 2.

Abdomen narrowly ovate, the bristles at apex of apical tergite longer than apical bristles on the others. Hypopygium sometimes, the processes of the fifth sternite always, testaceous yellow. The latter not very prominent, in the form of a pair of rounded lobes.

Legs rather stout, the tarsi slender and with very small claws and pulvilli; fore tibia without a median bristle; mid-tibia with three or more short posterior bristles; hind femur with some bristles on apical half of antero-ventral surface, the one nearest apex the strongest; hind tibia with two antero-dorsal and one antero-ventral bristles.

Wings rather short and broad; first cross-vein over one-third from apex of discal cell; ultimate section of fourth vein less than twice as long as penultimate; outer cross-vein straight.

Length, 5-6 mm.

Type.—No. 22273, U. S. National Museum, male (holotype) and female (allotype) from Santiago de las Vegas, Cuba, January 28, 1919, reared from oranges, by P. Cardin. Paratypes, male, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, November 13, 1933, reared from guava, by A. C. Harlen; two males and two females, August 26, 1935, reared from guava, by K. N. Bartlett, all in the U. S. National Museum.
